

**SEAHAM HARBOUR**  
**Urban District Council.**



**ANNUAL REPORT**

**FOR 1897,**

OF

**The Medical Officer of Health.**



SEAHAM HARBOUR :  
W. J. Young, Printer and Stationer, 28, North Railway Street.

—  
1898.

## To the Members of the Seaham Harbour Urban District Council.

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GENTLEMEN,

In compliance with the regulations of the Local Government Board, I beg to submit my Annual Report for 1897.

The population estimated to June 30th, 1897, was 9,990; area, 1,088 acres.

397 births have been registered during the past year, giving a birth rate of 39·7 per thousand, as against 43·5 in 1896, and 42·1 in 1895. Of these births 214 were male, and 183 female.

During the year 224 deaths of persons belonging to this district occurred, including 11 in Easington Workhouse, and 8 in Sunderland Infirmary. This gives a death rate of 22·4, as against 21·8 in 1896, and 21·7 in 1895.

19 deaths were due to phthisis, equal to a rate of 1·9, which is slightly higher than the previous year, when the rate was 1·6.

Respiratory death rate was 3·2, as against 4·6 in 1896.

The zymotic death rate was 2·6, which is higher than the previous year, when it was 1·4. This is owing to the number of deaths from diarrhoea and measles, 21 out of the 26 deaths having been caused by these diseases.

There was 1 death from scarlatina, 1 from diphtheria, and 2 from typhoid fever.

85 deaths under 1 year of age were registered. This gives an infant mortality rate of 214·1 per 1,000 births, which is very high, and due chiefly to premature birth, hereditary diseases, and injudicious feeding.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

63 cases of infectious disease were notified, as compared with 114 in 1896.

Scarlet fever was more or less prevalent during the year, 40 cases having been notified, as against 86 in 1896. It was of a very mild type, only 1 death having occurred. Every precaution was taken to prevent the spread of the disease, and disinfectants were supplied free of charge.

2 cases of diphtheria were notified, one of which terminated fatally. The houses were carefully disinfected by Mr. Burrell.

A great many cases of measles occurred. It is very difficult to prevent the spread of this disease, as parents will not keep their children isolated, being under the impression that they must have measles, and the sooner they get it over the better.

11 cases of typhoid fever were notified, of which 2 proved fatal, as against 14 cases and 5 deaths in 1896. No common cause could be discovered. 3 patients contracted the disease outside the district.

No case of typhus or puerperal fever was notified.

## GENERAL SANITATION.

The water supply was of the usual satisfactory character, both as to quantity and quality.

The dairies and lodging-houses have been regularly inspected, and found in a satisfactory condition.

Several streets are much improved, new channels having been laid down. With the Inspector I made a house to house inspection of Viceroy and Adolphus streets, and found them in a sanitary condition. I would suggest that the foundations of any new buildings in Frederick street, east of Maria street, should be cemented.

The ashpits have been regularly emptied. I hope no effort will be spared to have the contents removed off the streets as quickly as possible. Children playing round the contents of privy middens are almost certain to contract disease.

I hope that new sanitary bye-laws will be adopted this year.

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The rainfall was 23·004 inches, as against 26·580 in 1896.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

L. G. DILLON.



## BIRTHS.

Months.	Male.	Female.	Monthly Totals
January .. ..	16	13	29
February .. ..	18	16	34
March .. ..	18	25	43
April .. ..	23	13	36
May .. ..	26	11	37
June .. ..	16	17	33
July .. ..	19	19	38
August .. ..	11	11	22
September .. ..	12	10	22
October .. ..	14	16	30
November .. ..	25	15	40
December .. ..	16	17	33
YEARLY TOTALS	214	183	397

## DEATHS AT SUBJOINED AGES.

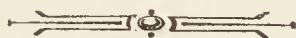
Months.	At all Ages.	Under 1 Year.	1 Year and under 5	5 Years and under 15	15 Years and under 25	25 Years and under 65	65 Years and up- wards
January .. ..	14	2	1		1	7	3
February .. ..	9	2			1	6	
March .. ..	21	6	2	1	1	8	3
April .. ..	22	7	3	3	1	7	1
May .. ..	17	5	1	2		6	3
June .. ..	19	7	1	1		8	2
July .. ..	18	11		1		4	2
August .. ..	17	11	4			1	1
September .. ..	19	9	3			5	2
October .. ..	26	11	5		1	5	4
November .. ..	23	5	11		1	5	1
December .. ..	19	9	3	1		4	2
YEARLY TOTALS ..	224	85	34	9	6	66	24



## DEATHS, WITH CERTAIN OF THE SPECIAL CAUSES.

Months.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Diarrhoea and Dysentery.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneu- monia and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Injuries.	All other Diseases.	Monthly Totals.
January ..							4	2	1		7	14
February ..							1		4	2	2	9
March ..		1					2	4		1	13	21
April ..					1		2	7	1		11	22
May ..							1		3		13	17
June ..								4	2		13	19
July ..			1	1			1	1			14	18
August ..						5		1			11	17
September ..					1	5	2			1	10	19
October ..					4	2	3	3	1		13	26
November ..			1		2		2	7	1		10	23
December ..	1				1		1	3	3		10	19
Yearly Tot'ls	1	1	2	1	9	12	19	32	16	4	127	224

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES (NOTIFICATION) ACT, 1889.



## CASES NOTIFIED.

Months.	No. of Cases Notified.	CAUSES.			
		Diphtheria.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.
January .. ..	6		1	5	
February .. ..	6	1	1	3	1
March .. ..	6			6	
April .. ..	2	1		1	
May .. ..	6		2	2	2
June .. ..	4		1	3	
July .. ..	5		1	2	2
August .. ..	3		2		1
September .. ..	4			3	1
October .. ..	7		1	3	3
November .. ..	6			5	1
December .. ..	8		1	7	
Yearly Totals ..	63	2	10	40	11

# CASES NOTIFIED AT SUBJOINED AGES.

Months.	No. of Cases	Under 1 Year	1 Year and under 5	5 Years and under 15	15 Years and under 25	25 Years and under 65	65 Years and up- wards
January ..	6			4	1	1	
February ..	6		2	3		1	
March ..	6			4		2	
April ..	2			2			
May ..	6		1	1	1	2	1
June ..	4			2		2	
July ..	5	1		1	1	2	
August ..	3			1	1	1	
September ..	4			2	1	1	
October ..	7	1		2	2	2	
November ..	6			3	2	1	
December ..	8		1	6		1	
YEARLY TOTALS ..	63	2	4	31	9	16	1